

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An open top type IC socket comprising:

a socket body; and

a cover member mounted vertically movable to the socket body to open and close contacts;

wherein said socket body has a mounting portion to support an IC package ~~mounted on the socket~~, and said cover member has a square an opening facing said mounting portion and inclined guide wall surfaces leading to said opening and adapted to guide the IC package to be mounted onto the mounting portion; and

wherein the inclined guide wall surfaces are arranged symmetrical with respect to longitudinal and lateral center lines of the opening, and each inclined guide wall surface comprises a first inclined guide wall surface traversing each of the center lines, a second inclined guide wall surface provided at each corner portion and having an inclination angle larger than inclination angle of the first inclined guide wall surface, and a third inclined guide wall surface connecting to the first and second inclined guide wall surfaces.

2. (Original) An IC socket as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least two opposing sides of said opening substantially match with an envelope joining tips of lead terminals extending from the IC package to be mounted.

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3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) An IC socket as claimed in claim 1, wherein a plurality of fixed contacts are arranged around the mounting portion and two opposing sides of the opening substantially match with an envelope joining outer ends of the fixed contacts.
6. (Original) An IC socket as claimed in claim 2, wherein a plurality of fixed contacts are arranged around the mounting portion and two opposing sides of the opening substantially match with an envelope joining outer ends of the fixed contacts.
7. (Original) An IC socket as claimed in claim 3, wherein a plurality of fixed contacts are arranged around the mounting portion and two opposing sides of the opening substantially match with an envelope joining outer ends of the fixed contacts.
8. (Currently Amended) An IC socket comprising:
 - a socket body having a mounting portion for supporting an IC package and a plurality of contacts arranged around the mounting portion to come into contact with tips of lead terminals extending from the IC package; and
 - a cover member having an opening at a center thereof and mounted vertically movable to the socket body to open and close the contacts;
 - wherein the opening has its lower edge formed into a square facing the mounting portion and has inclined guide wall surfaces for guiding the IC package onto the mounting portion; and

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wherein the inclined guide wall surfaces are arranged symmetrical with respect to longitudinal and lateral center lines of the square opening and each inclined guide wall surface comprises a first inclined guide wall surface crossing each of the center lines, a second inclined guide wall surface provided at each corner portion and having an inclination angle larger than an inclination angle of the first inclined guide wall surface, and a third inclined guide wall surface connecting to the first and second inclined guide wall surfaces.

9. (Currently Amended) An IC socket as claimed in claim 8, wherein the contacts further comprising: each have

a base portion embedded in the socket body[[,]];
a first arm extending from the base portion and having a first contact at its tip[[,]];
and

a second arm extending from the base portion and having a second contact at its tip and a curved elastic portion ~~at its intermediate portion~~ at an intermediate position of the second arm.

10. (Original) An IC socket as claimed in claim 9, wherein the first contacts at the tips of the first arms are secured to the socket body.

11. (Original) An IC socket as claimed in claim 10, wherein two opposing sides of the opening almost match with an envelope joining outer ends of the first contacts of the first arms of the contacts.

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12. (Original) An IC socket as claimed in claim 10, wherein at least two opposing sides of the opening almost match with an envelope joining tips of lead terminals extending from the IC package.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

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